

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2127

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC ZA WA SF
SUBJ: KAUNDA LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED JUNE 13 FROM PRESIDENT
KAUNDA TO PRESIDENT CARTER. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

PRESIDENT NYERERE WILL BY NOW HAVE INFORMED YOU OF THE
RESULTS OF THE WEEKEND SUMMIT OF FRONTLINE COUNTRIES HELD IN
LUANDA WHICH ENDED ON SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1978. WE HAD FRUITFUL
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SWAPO PRESIDENT, MR. SAM NUJOMA. I AM
GLAD TO INFORM YOU THAT WE MADE VERY GOOD PROGRESS. THERE WERE
TWO REMAINING HURDLES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SWAPO AND THE
CONTACT GROUP OF FIVE. THESE ARE:-

- (A) WALVIS BAY;
- (B) THE LOCATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESIDUAL FORCES.

OTHER ISSUES WERE CONSIDERED AS RESOLVED.

WITH REGARD TO WALVIS BAY, SWAPO ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL FOR
A POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN
WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS WILL MAKE A FIRM COMMITMENT THAT WALVIS
BAY SHOULD BE PART OF NAMIBIA, AND THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
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COMMUNITY WILL SUPPORT SWAPO IN ITS EFFORTS TO HAVE THAT
TERRITORY RETURNED TO NAMIBIA SPEEDILY. THE FRONTLINE STATES
FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT THIS COMMITMENT. I DO HOPE THAT THE
UNITED STATES WILL NOT MERELY SUPPORT SWAPO'S CLAIM TO FACILITATE
THE NEGOTIATIONS BUT WILL GENUINELY BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON
SOUTH AFRICA TO RETURN WALVIS BAY TO NAMIBIA AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

THE LOCATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESIDUAL FORCES, IS A DIFFICULT ISSUE. SWAPO HAS TREMENDOUS FEARS AFTER THE RAID ON THE SWAPO REFUGEE CAMP AT KASSINGA IN ANGOLA BY SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES. WE SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR FEARS. SWAPO, THEREFORE, PROPOSES THAT SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES SHOULD NOT BE LOCATED IN THE NORTH OF THE COUNTRY. THEY HAVE DROPPED THEIR INSISTENCE ON KARASBURG. THEY PROPOSE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS COULD BE LOCATED ANYWHERE SOUTH OF WINDHOEK.

THIS WOULD APPEAR TO US TO BE A REASONABLE PROPOSAL MADE OUT OF A GENUINE COMMITMENT TO END THE CONFLICT IN NAMIBIA. I, THEREFORE, APPEAL TO THE CONTACT GROUP OF FIVE TO UNDERSTAND SWAPO. THEY HAVE NOW MADE A MAJOR CONCESSION ON WALVIS BAY AND I MUST ADMIT THAT IT IS A PAINFUL CONCESSION. SOUTH AFRICA MUST NOW ALSO MAKE A CONCESSION BY ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL THAT THE RESIDUAL FORCES SHOULD BE LOCATED ANYWHERE SOUTH OF WINDHOEK. IF THE RESIDUAL FORCE IS NOT AN OFFENSIVE FORCE, THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN SOUTH AFRICA'S ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROPOSAL.

I AM GLAD THAT WE HAVE DISPOSED OF THE OTHER REMAINING ISSUES, NAMELY:-

(A) THE UNITED NATIONS ROLE;

(B) THE SIZE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MILITARY FORCE, WHICH I HOPE WILL BE MORE THAN 5,000 MEN, AND THE POLICE FORCE, WHICH SHOULD BE MORE THAN 1,000 MEN. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE MONITORING FORCE IS LARGE AND EFFECTIVE.

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I URGE YOU NOW TO MOVE SPEEDILY TOWARDS THE CONCLUSION OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

WITH WARMEST REGARDS.

YOURS SINCERELY,

END TEXT

2. THE SIGNED ORIGINAL OF THIS LETTER IS BEING POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT, AF/EX, JUNE 14.
CLINGERMAN

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